

◆ Where are Maryland's trauma centers located?

Primary Adult Resource Center—

R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at
University of Maryland Medical Center
Baltimore MD

Level I Trauma Center—

Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore MD

Level II Trauma Center—

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
Baltimore MD
Sinai Hospital of Baltimore
Baltimore MD
Suburban Hospital
Bethesda MD
Prince George's Hospital Center
Cheverly MD

Level III Trauma Center—

Western Maryland Health Systems
Memorial Trauma Center
Cumberland MD
Washington County Hospital Center
Hagerstown MD
Peninsula Regional Medical Center
Salisbury MD

Pediatric Trauma Center—

Children's National Medical Center
Washington DC

◆ What on-call costs are reimbursed by the Trauma Fund?

The Trauma Fund reimburses the Level II and III trauma centers for incurring the costs of having trauma physicians on-call and available at these trauma centers.

◆ How will the funds be administered?

Maryland lawmakers designated the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) and the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) to administer and oversee the Fund.

Maryland Health Care Commission

Stephen J. Salamon
Chairman

Rex W. Cowdry, M.D.
Executive Director

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**Health Services Cost
Review Commission**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE TRAUMA FUND,
PLEASE GO TO THE MHCC WEB SITE LOCATED AT:
http://mhcc.maryland.gov/trauma_fund/trauma.htm

OR CONTACT

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What is the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund?

**For Practice Administrators
and Medical Billing Staff**



Updated January 2006

◆ What is the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund?

The *Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund* is an initiative resulting from legislation passed in the 2003 session of the Maryland General Assembly. The Fund reimburses trauma physicians for trauma care provided to uninsured patients and Medicaid enrollees, and reimburses trauma centers for incurring the costs of having trauma physicians on-call and available to provide care.

◆ What is the definition of an uninsured patient?

An uninsured or uncompensated care patient has no private health insurance (which includes HMO, PPO, or Indemnity), no Medicare Part B coverage, no VA health benefits, no military health benefits, no worker's compensation coverage, and is not eligible for Medicaid.

◆ Where does the funding come from?

Funds come from a \$5.00 surcharge (or \$2.50 per year) applied to the 2-year motor vehicle registration fees paid by Maryland motorists.

◆ Which physician specialties are eligible to receive funds?

Only trauma surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, critical care physicians, and anesthesiologists are eligible to receive the higher Trauma Fund payments for uncompensated care and Medicaid enrolled patients:

The Trauma Fund reimburses emergency room physicians as a specialty a total of \$250,000 annually for services provided to uncompensated care patients. Emergency room physicians cannot receive payment for services provided to Medicaid enrolled patients.

◆ How are trauma physicians reimbursed for trauma care?

Trauma physicians are reimbursed for uncompensated care services at a rate up to 100 percent of the current Medicare facility-based payment in the Baltimore carrier locality area. Services provided to Medicaid trauma patients are reimbursed at the greater of the Medicaid routine payment rate or up to 100 percent of the current Medicare facility-based payment in the Baltimore carrier locality area.

◆ What eligibility requirements must a trauma physician meet to receive payment for uncompensated care services from the Trauma Fund?

The following requirements must be met:

- ◆ The trauma patient must be treated in a Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) designated trauma center and have a Trauma Registry Number assigned by the center's trauma coordinator.
- ◆ The physician must be one of the physician specialties eligible to participate in the Trauma Fund.
- ◆ The physician must be listed on the trauma center's roster of participating physicians.
- ◆ Physician practices must complete their established collection policies and procedures for uncompensated care patients before submission to the Fund.

◆ How can I receive the Trauma Fund rate for services provided to Medicaid enrolled patients?

Physician practices must submit claims directly to the Maryland Medical Assistance Administration (Medicaid) or its managed care organizations (MCOs). Billing and practice managers must follow a special set of instructions to receive payment at the Trauma Fund rate. Questions on receiving payment from Medicaid or its MCOs can be answered by:

Robert Ziewlaszkiewicz
Policy Analyst (410)767-1481
Medicaid Provider Relations (410)767-5503

◆ When can a trauma physician submit an uncompensated care application?

MHCC accepts uncompensated care applications twice a year no later than the end of January and July.

◆ What type of uncompensated care application will the Trauma Fund accept?

A physician practice can submit requests for payment of uncompensated care services in one of two methods:

- a. Submit the paper version of the uncompensated care application; or
- b. Submit a floppy or compact disk with Tables 1, 2, and 3 of the uncompensated care application saved in an Excel spreadsheet, as well as the completed electronic version of the uncompensated care application.

Copies of the paper and electronic versions of the uncompensated care application and the Excel spreadsheet of Tables 1, 2, and 3 are located on the MHCC web site located at

http://mhcc.maryland.gov/trauma_fund/_trauma.htm.

◆ How long will it take to issue a check?

Please allow approximately 75 days from the day MHCC receives your uncompensated care application to the day the physician practice receives the check from the State Comptroller's Office.

◆ Can a physician practice be retrospectively audited by the Trauma Fund?

Physician practices that receive payment for uncompensated care services may be selected for review by the Trauma Fund's auditing firm Clifton Gunderson, LLP.